

# Medi-Cal Program Guide Letter #604

February 23, 2007

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**Subject**            **NEW INCOME LIMITS FOR THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL (FPL) PROGRAMS, AGED AND DISABLED FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL PROGRAM (A&D FPL) FOR COUPLES AND 2007 TUBERCULOSIS INCOME STANDARD AND RELATED ISSUES.**

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**Effective Date**    January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007

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**Reference**            ACWDL 06-39, 06-40, 07-04 and MPG Special Notice (SN) 06-16

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**Purpose**                The purpose of this letter is to inform of the following changes:

- An increase to the FPLs and Sneede V. Kizer prorated income levels for Section 1931(b)
- An increase in the A&D FPL Income Limit for a couple
- A change in the income disregard for A&D FPL
- An increase in the 2007 Tuberculosis (TB) Income Standard for individuals

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**Background**        The payment rate for Social Security's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program increased as of January 1, 2007. The A&D FPL program limits cannot be less than the SSI/State Supplemental Plan (SSP) payment levels. The currently effective 2006 A& D FPL income limit for individuals will remain the same through January 1, 2007. The SSI/SSP couple level is above the A&D FPL income limit, therefore, the A&D FPL program income limit for couples must be changed to match the SSI/SSP couple income level.

Every year the Social Security Administration (SSA) Title II Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all FPL based programs is disregarded until the FPLs are in effect annually on April 1.

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### Changes

The table below shows the FPL changes in this letter.

Effective Date	Program	Change
1/1/2007	A&D FPL	The income disregard for couples is changed to \$432
		The Federal Poverty Level income limit is changed to \$1502
	TB Program	The income standard for 2007 is changed to \$1,331 for an individual. NOTE: If an applicant is married and living with the spouse, use only the applicant's income received in his/her name.
	QMB, SLMB, QI Programs	FPLs increased for applicants or recipients that are <b>not</b> receiving RSDI Title II income
3/1/2007	QMB, SLMB, QI Programs	FPLs increased for applicants or recipients that <b>are</b> receiving RSDI Title II income.
4/1/2007	FPL programs	FPLs increased.
	1931(b) <u>Sneede</u>	Prorated FPLs increased.

### Required Action

#### **FPL Increase**

Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 workers will:

- Use the 2007 A&D FPL Income Limit for a couple,
- Use the 2007 income disregard for A&D FPL,
- Use the 2007 Tuberculosis Income Standard for individuals,
- And use the 2007 QMB, SLMB and QI FPL when determining eligibility for individuals **without** RSDI Title II income.

Effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 workers will use the 2007 QMB, SLMB and QI FPL when determining eligibility for individuals **with** RSDI Title II income.

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### Required Action (continued)

Effective April 1, 2007 workers will:

- Use the new FPL figures provided in MPG Article 11, Appendices A and B when determining eligibility for the following special programs:
  - 100% FPL for children ages 6 to 19
  - 133% FPL for children ages 1 to 6
  - 200% FPL for children under age 1 and for pregnancy
- A&D FPL
- QMB
- SLMB
- QI
- 250% Working Disabled (WD) Program
- 1931(b)

Use the new prorated Sneede v. Kizer Social Security income limits for Section 1931(b) when determining eligibility.

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### Lists of affected cases

Lists will be distributed electronically to regions in order to identify applicants who may have been denied due to excess income and are now eligible due to the FPL increase. Attached to the electronic copy of this letter is the list for A&D FPL denied 1/1/07-1/31/07. The rest of the lists will be distributed electronically as soon as they are made available.

List	Evaluation Procedure
A&D FPL Programs denied 1/1/2007-1/31/2007	A&D FPL Program cases denied 1/1/2007-1/31/2007 are to be reviewed to determine if Medi-Cal eligibility exists for January 2007 ongoing using the new income standard and granted retroactively if applicable.
Medi-Cal (TB) Program cases denied 1/1/2007-1/31/2007	NOTE: San Diego County does not have any affected TB program cases.
QMB/SLMB/QI Cases <b>without</b> RSDI Title II income Denied 1/1/07-1/31/07.	QMB/SLMB/QI Cases without social security income are to be reviewed to determine if Medi-Cal eligibility exists for January 2007 and ongoing.
QMB/SLMB/QI Cases <b>with</b> RSDI Title II income Denied 3/1/07-3/31/07.	QMB/SLMB/QI Cases with social security income are to be reviewed to determine if Medi-Cal eligibility exists for March 2007 and ongoing.

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### Automation Impact

- The reference tables for the January 1 – March 31, 2007 A&D FPL Income Limit for a couple, the 2007 income disregard for A&D FPL and the 2007 Tuberculosis Income Standard for individuals were updated in CalWIN February 5, 2007.
- The reference tables for the FPL increases effective April 1, 2007 will be updated in Calwin March 3, 2007.
- The Calwin Project will do a COLA run March 3, 2007, this action will run EDBC and auto authorize the results after the FPL tables are updated.
- After the COLA run, client correspondence for any automated changes created by the run will be sent in batch.

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### Batch Exception list

As with previous COLA runs, there will be some cases that will not convert successfully during the COLA run. The worker must determine if an error exists, resolve it, run EDBC, and authorize the results. The list is attached to the electronic copy of this letter.

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### Forms Impact

None

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### Quality Assurance Impact

Effective with the April 2007 sample month, Quality Assurance will cite with the appropriate error any case that does not follow the requirements of this letter.

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### Summary of Change

The table below shows the changes that were made to the MPG material.

Article	Change
Article 5, Section 10, Appendices D, E, F	Revised values from MPG SN 06-16 have been incorporated.
Article 11, Section 1, appendices A and B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Changed Income Standards Chart to reflect new Income disregard for A&amp;D FPL.</li><li>• Changed Income Standards Chart to reflect 2007 TB Income Standard.</li><li>• Revised values from MPG SN 06-16 have been incorporated.</li><li>• Changed Income Standards Chart to reflect new 2007 FPL Income Standard.</li></ul>

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### Filing Instructions

The table below shows how to file the MPG material.

Action	Pages
Remove	Article 5-10-D through 5-10-F
	Article 11-1-A through 11-1-B
Replace	Article 5-10-D through 5-10-F
	Article 11-1-A through 11-1-B

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### Important Notice

The MPG is available in its entirety on the County Intranet by accessing <http://hhsa.intranet/manuals/mpg/index.html>. The MPG revisions listed in this letter will be entered into the Intranet MPG at the next update.

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### Manager Approval

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Dann Crawford, Assistant Deputy Director  
Medi-Cal, General Relief, and CAPI Program Administration  
Strategic Planning & Operational Support Division

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